

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **AMEND** claims 25, 27, 30, 34-36, 39-40, 42, 44, 46, and 48 as shown below.

Please **ADD** new claim 49 as shown below.

Claims 1-24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended) ~~A method of distributing a network parameter information among network nodes (A-E) of a radio access network, said method comprising the steps of:~~

a) — determining, based on a topology information of said a radio access network, a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to the shortest paths from said a network node to other nodes;

b) — detecting a network parameter change in a network node of said transmission network; and

c) — distributing said network parameter information indicating said network parameter change from said network node to said other nodes in accordance with said spanning tree,

d) — wherein said network node ~~generates~~ is configured to generate, for each of its offspring nodes, a respective updating information and ~~sends~~ to send said respective updating information to all offspring nodes.

26. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, wherein said network parameter information is used in a network operation and management procedure in a radio access network.

27. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein said network operation and management procedure is an-a macro diversity combining (MDC) point selection procedure.

28. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, wherein said network parameter information relates to a QoS-related parameter.

29. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 28, wherein said network parameter information comprises at least one of a link state, a link utilization, a node utilization, and a macro diversity combining load.

30. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 25, further comprising the step of deriving said topology information from at least one routing table.

31. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 30, wherein one routing table is provided for each network node.

32. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 31, wherein said one routing table provides a branch information for each offspring node of said network node.

33. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 32, wherein said branch information indicates branches of the concerned offspring node.

34. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 25, further comprising ~~the step of~~ deriving said topology information from a link state database of a routing protocol of said transmission network.

35. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 25, further comprising ~~the step of~~ obtaining said topology information by running a flooding scheme and a shortest-path-first algorithm.

36. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 25, further comprising ~~the step of~~ deciding on those parameters to be included in said network parameter information based on said topology information.

37. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, wherein said network parameter information comprises said updating information sent to each offspring node.

38. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 37, wherein said updating information comprises a branch information, a parameter update information and a node identification of the network node at which said network parameter change has occurred.

39. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 37, further comprising ~~the step of~~ distributing a received updating information from an offspring node of said network node to an offspring node of said offspring node based on said branch information.

40. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 37, further comprising ~~the step of~~ updating a parameter information stored at said offspring node using said updating information.

41. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25, wherein said transmission network is a radio access network based on internet protocol technology.

42. (Currently Amended) A network node for distributing a network parameter information to other network nodes of a transmission network, said network node being arranged configured to detect a change in a network parameter related to said network node, and to distribute said network parameter information indicating said network

parameter change towards said other network nodes in response to said detection and in accordance with a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to the shortest paths from said network node to said other nodes, wherein said network node is configured to generate generates-for each of its offspring nodes a respective updating information and sends to send said respective updating information to all offspring nodes.

43. (Previously Presented) A network node according to claim 42, wherein said spanning tree is derived from a topology information of said transmission network.

44. (Currently Amended) A network node according to claim 43, wherein said network is arranged configured to decide on those parameters to be included in said network parameter information based on said topology information.

45. (Previously Presented) A network node according to claim 42, wherein said network node is a base station device of a radio access network.

46. (Currently Amended) A network node for distributing a network parameter information to other network nodes of a radio access network, said network node being arranged configured to receive a network parameter information from an upper node, to update a stored parameter information according to said received network parameter information, and to distribute said network parameter information to its offspring network

nodes based on a branch information included in said network parameter information, said branch information being derived from a spanning tree routing topology, wherein said network node is arranged configured to update said branch information in said network parameter information before distributing said network parameter information to said other nodes.

47. (Previously Presented) A network node according to claim 46, wherein said other nodes are offspring nodes of said network node.

48. (Currently Amended) A network node according to claim 46, wherein said network node is a base station device of a radio access network.

49. (New) A system, comprising:

determining means for determining, based on topology information of a radio access network, a spanning tree of routing paths corresponding to shortest paths from a network node to other nodes;

detecting means for detecting a network parameter change in a network node of said network; and

distributing means for distributing network parameter information indicating said network parameter change from said network node to said other nodes in accordance with said spanning tree,

wherein said network node is configured to generate, for each of its offspring nodes, a respective updating information and to send said respective updating information to all offspring nodes.